

## DUTY OF THE CITIZEN

A Paper Read Before the Pastor's Conference Monday.

## SUNDAY DESACRATION DENOUNCED

And Its Subverting Influence Graphically Illustrated and Emphatically Exposed—The Rev. J. E. Smith, Moderator of the Subject.

In the pastor's conference Monday afternoon the Rev. J. E. Smith, from a special committee, read the following paper:

It is often charged that the best citizens are indifferent to the violation of laws that do not directly touch them. But the American citizen is a busy man. He is deeply and earnestly engaged in attending his own business. He has entrusted the care of the government to those whom he has judged competent to govern. The affairs of the nation, the state, the municipality are remote from him unless they jar upon his immediate interests. Yet no class of men are quicker to respond to the call of duty than these very citizens. That they do not take a deeper interest in the evils of society is because they have not been made aware of the danger.

The wickedness of our cities is not due, therefore, to the indifference of the more intelligent class. Neither is it due to the neglect of duty by the officials. It is altogether too common to lay all the violations of law to the remissness of officers. If a law of the city is broken, the mayor too slack, or the chief of police winks at the violator, or the special policeman has taken a tip from some one, and, therefore, our safety is imperiled. It seems to me, however, that this is a bad attitude for one to assume unless he is proved to have had such things as true. Officials are human and recent unjust treatment just as other men do. They love their friends, and give their wares due regard just as other men do. Many a good man has been slandered by false and unjust criticism from quarters where an impartial judgment was expected.

Men Defy the Law.  
But laws are violated, men openly act in defiance of good and wholesome laws, they even resort to interference with their lawbreaking designs. They league together to assist each other in this selfish purpose. They evade the meaning of laws by falsehood and resistance. Conviction can only be had by plain indisputable evidence. Officers are watched and therefore prevented from securing such evidence as will convict. While often morally certain that the law is broken. Hence if we want our laws enforced, these laws must be carefully examined, and earnestly explained to our people. The duty of giving evidence which may be secured by each one, by the law is simplified. What our citizens need is more Gospel that deals with every day life, with the laws of today as well as those of Moses, or of Solomon.

The Gospel is for the public good. The laws of our land are for the public good, and if Butler's argument on the divine government is sound, then in so far as those laws are intended to protect man in his rights, to secure to him quiet and blessing, in so far as they are the expression of the divine mind, and ought to be sacredly regarded. Their object is to produce order and to secure prosperity. Therefore the new rendering of passage relating to believers will provide for a more thorough acquaintance with the law, and the duty of all citizens under the law. For a state represents a body of men who have entered into a social compact, and thus a society or state is formed. Man surrenders to the state or society all his rights which in any way interfere with the general welfare. This is the basis of the social compact. In the words of a competent authority, "We are no longer permitted to act with reference to ourselves alone, but simply as a component element of society." There are valuable considerations. "Society protects me; I enter into that relation. It takes care of my life, my property, my reputation, my liberty—but on the other hand I agree to be obedient to the will of society, that is to the will of the majority. It is a valid consideration.

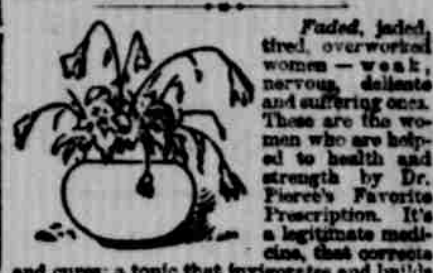
Officers should Enforce the Law.  
This social compact, in society, and especially in popular government, takes the form of law. This law is enacted by the representative of society and the law is the expression of sovereign will. To disobey the sovereign will, to be lawless yourself, to teach lawlessness to your fellow citizens, is treason to the sovereign. To see a law violated, to possess evidence and then conceal it, is to perform a lawless act. It is somebody's duty to do what is your duty. It is the duty of the proper officers to enforce the laws for the protection of society. That is their business. That is what they are appointed for. But the citizen must furnish evidence that the law is broken. The citizen must be aroused to the fact that the law is broken, and how it is done. Here comes in the duty of the watchmen on the high places of the city. These officers need to be sustained by an array of citizens, by public sentiment, and here again is the duty of the minister of the revised gospel, that gospel which will bring peace to man of good will. An intelligent study of the laws regarding the Sabbath, the careful compilation of the various cases, and decisions rendered, the relation of obedience to law, to social welfare, the evils of disobedience to law as men in degenerated manhood which produces unsatisfactory results in industry, in putting office, in brickyard, and in colliery, in cash boy and in bank cashiers, thoroughly taught the people, emphasizing as the preacher did who sought out excellent things, "that righteousness exalts a nation," would not only bring about the enforcement of the laws, but crowd our churches with the citizens who at least believe in good government. If the present civilization with its widespread industries, and its fast advancing improvements, is the effect of the Christian life in the world, then it is our duty under God to make this effect, effective in advancing righteousness in the individual, in the municipality, in the state, and in the nation.

Religion at War with Evil.  
We believe that God moves in the affairs of men; we ought, therefore, to know how He moves, and that we are moving with Him. The church is properly separated from the state, but the religion that is in men, is also in the state, in its institutions and in its laws, and this religion is externally at war with evil. The evil that threatens the peace and prosperity of the city must be pointed out, but it must be done by intelligent and proper methods. If for example, the ministers of this

city would unite in the study of the laws, and of the court decisions relative to the observance of the Sabbath and then come together where they could discuss the subject without interference, and after a thorough canvass of the whole matter, including ways of obtaining evidence, creating complaints, etc., agree upon a plan of preaching the subject to the people, then all strike together and all keep at it till everybody, opportunist and all, is aroused. I have faith enough in the good citizenship of this city or any other to believe that not a Sunday theater, not a Sabbath-breaking saloon, not a Sabbath-breaking base ball association, not a Sunday trotting race, could stand the pressure of the sturdy and righteous sentiment around. The laws would be respected, the officials sustained, the pulpit regarded, the people blessed and the whole community rejoined in the quiet and rest of a holy Sabbath day. In the sentiment of the right kind must be created. It is powerful. Carter Harrison says, when speaking of the evil of the Garfield park races: "Go to the city authorities with roused public sentiment and you can compel them to take prompt action and rid this part of the city of the worst gambling hell it has ever known." The times demand a united clergy who are able and willing to work together in righting wrongs. As it is, in too many instances we are engaged in explaining minor matters, in dwelling on topics that have no vital relation to conduct, to character, to destiny. We do not create opinion; we rather divide opinion. We do not set men to discussing our sermons, because the sermons have not touched them.

Agitation is Demanded.  
But if we should all unite and agree to preach upon the same subject, and the same phase of the subject at the same time for a number of Sabbaths, people would awaken to the fact that we meant business. This would be far better than a mass meeting; for we would reach more people, and the effect would be wider spread. In the end we would be guided by seeing a law and order league formed and manned with good responsible citizens. In union there is strength, and in the union of the church of the Living God there is tremendous power. We have not realized the power there is in our hands. God gives us to see and use the force of Christian unity. All knowledge of state laws ought not to be relegated to men with less intellectual furnishings than the ministerial. The weakness of the hold of the clergy over business men is largely due to the fact that in practical matters we are lacking. We do not unite to fight common enemies. And

the consequences of the almost universal neglect to understand, and to exercise the power of a united effort of the kind outlined, have been and are most deplorable. As the Hon. C. C. Bonney says: "Dangerous classes and interests boldly intrude into the fields of active life, and audaciously contend with legitimate business and with lawful authority for possession and control." Therefore it is the duty of every man who loves his home, his country and his God, to demand that the laws be obeyed, and the lawless be punished. The wicked are bold and impudent. They do not scruple at means used to obtain the end desired. They will fight every inch of the ground, they will expend money liberally, and appeal to every base passion, in order to defeat the effort to make the city a law-abiding municipality. But, brethren, our God is on our side, and deeply in human nature has He laid the necessity for a rest day wherein the higher nature of man may expand in worship and grow in grace. We conclude, therefore, with the words of Mr. Bonney: "It is a high and imperative duty to exalt the regal principle of human government in the affections of the people; to lead them to reverence and study its majestic nature and lofty duties; and to encourage them to support with all their power those executive officers upon whose courage and fidelity they must ever depend for protection and defense."



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Our prices low all year 'round, are lowest now. Good cassimere and cheviot suits, \$8 and \$10. Elegant dress suits, single or double-breasted, latest patterns or colors, \$12 and \$15. Finest imported dress suits, as good as custom work, \$18 and \$20. Why not, sir, treat yourself to such a Xmas gift?

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Thousands, yes, tens of thousands! Prices away down at rock bottom! Good melton or chinchilla overcoats, \$8 and \$10. Dandy kersey and melton overcoats, all styles, at \$12 and \$15. Best imported kersey, melton, cheviot, chinchilla and beaver overcoats, \$18 and \$20. Also chinchillas, \$3.88, \$4.50 and \$5.00.

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We are closing out all our dressing jackets at cost and way below. They are going fast. We save you at least \$2 to \$3 on every jacket bought of us.

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Something worth while getting. Good coney fur caps, 50c; French seal cap, \$1; best Alaska (one piece) seal caps, \$10, \$12 and \$14.

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How much better than toys! Thousands of kilt suits (sizes 2 to 6) at \$2, \$4 and \$6. Thousands of short pants suits (sizes 4 to 14) at \$1.25, \$1.50, \$3, \$5 and \$7. Thousands of long pants suits (sizes, 14 to 20) at \$3.00, \$5, \$8, \$10, \$12 and \$15. Truly, the grandest values ever offered.

## Boys's Overcoats.

More substantial than candy! Not very expensive, either. Good overcoats at \$1.50. Can anything be cheaper? Fine cape overcoats, sizes from 2 to 14, at \$2.50, \$3, \$4 and \$5. Nobby box overcoats, sizes 8 to 20, at \$5, \$8, \$10. Natty reefer, sizes 4 to 14, at \$3, \$5 and \$8.

## Neckwear.

New holiday scarfs at 25c. At 50c we show a most exquisite line, and at \$1 we show the best and finest—regular \$1.25 and \$1.50 ties.

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No more useful gifts in the world. Men's full dress pique shirts, \$1.00. They have no peer for the money. Finest full dress shirts, \$1.50 and \$2. Collars and cuffs, all the best brands at lowest prices. Unlaundered shirts the best in the world at 35c.

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We carry \$5000 worth of instruments.

Appliances, pessaries, catheters, artificial backs, hot water bags, ice caps for head, narrow ice bags for the spine, stomach pumps, and a large variety of special goods sometimes necessary but we have them when wanted. We are not afraid of dead stock; call for what you want and do not ask me that you must send to Chicago, until you have enquired for the articles you require from us.

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We have leased the basement, first and second floors of 68 Monroe street, now occupied by Nelson Bros. & Co., and the third and fourth floors of both 68 and 70, and will open the same about Feb. 15, when the improvements are completed—new front, elevator, etc., and will have the most spacious, lighted and most conveniently arranged Carpet and Drapery warerooms between New York and Chicago. We propose to open our new store with an entire new stock of goods and offer everything in our elegant stock at greatly reduced prices. Everything goes; nothing reserved. Sale begins at once.

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Fish-tail carvers' tools made on sale at Foster, Stevens & Co.'s store.

## For the Next Thirty Days

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FULL DRESS SUITS made to order of Dressed or Undressed Worsteds, French Crepe and Broadcloths at \$30, \$33 and \$35. These are offered for this occasion only, as I have heard so many say, "I can't attend this ball as I have no dress suit," or "My dress suit is not fit for wear and my tailor asks \$60 or \$75 to alter it." Convince yourself by calling in and examining. I shall do the best by you. My \$6.50 sale on Fancy Silk Vest and Worsteds Pants shall be continued. It has proven a grand success. Competitors are not in it. Also my Suit sale at \$20, \$22, \$23 and 25 in the latest shades; other houses ask \$5 and \$10 more for the same goods. TO OUR LADY PATRONS: I have received new novelties in Winter Cloths for Jackets and Top Coats. I can save you 35 per cent in good work. I do re-cutting of Cloaks out of style at moderate prices. I have remnants of Cloths suitable for Boys' Knee Pants that will be sold very cheap.

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A splendid Gents' Embroidered Slipper, any style you want, 55c, 75c, 92c, \$1 and \$1.25; these are handsome, fit lovely and will wear immense. In fact we can show you the finest line of Ladies' and Gents' Fancy Embroidered Slippers ever seen in the city.

FOR 1c 1000 doz. bottles Shoe Dressing worth 15c.

FOR 30c 8 cases of infant's shoes, fine kid and dongola, worth 50c.

FOR 48c 725 pairs ladies' fine kid house slippers, worth 75c.

FOR 93c Choice of 700 pairs of ladies' dongola kid, patent tip button shoes, worth \$1.50, all sizes.

FOR \$1.25 We give the lovers of hand-made shoes the choice of 23 different styles of kid, dongola or goat, any size or

width; they are cheap at \$2.25; don't fail to see them.

80c Buys a man's solid work shoe, worth \$1.50

\$1.25 Buys a pair of fine gents' dress shoes, calf or dongola in congress or lace; they are cheap at \$2.50.

\$1.45 Buys a gents' fine calf sewed congress or lace shoes; 18 different styles; a dandy; worth \$2.35.

\$1.75 and \$2 Buys a pair of fine dress ladies' or gents' shoes in calf or kangaroo, kid or some footwear the choice of 23 different styles; these fit fine and are dirt cheap at \$3.00.

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Black and Blue Chinchillas, well made, worth everywhere \$5, you take them at Panic Prices \$2.98

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